



## **THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** **SUNDAY 22ND JANUARY 2023**

### **The Inauguration of the Kingdom of God**

The geographical references in today's readings from Isaiah and Matthew are highly significant. The lands of Zebulun and Naphtali were the territories of the northern-most tribes of Israel. In 721 BC, the Assyrians invaded these regions and destroyed the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Later, in 587 BC, the Babylonians destroyed the Southern Kingdom of Judah, sending the population into exile. Matthew uses these geographical allusions deliberately to teach that Jesus' public ministry inaugurates the restoration of God's kingdom where it was first extinguished. Jesus brings God's light and salvation into these areas of desolation, fulfilling the prophet Isaiah's hope: "The people who walked in darkness/have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom / a light has shone" (Is 9:1).

Jesus enters Galilee with the challenge: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Mt 4:17). Unambiguously, Jesus proclaims his intention to inaugurate God's kingdom. He issues a call to enter a new relationship with God by undergoing a change of heart.

Jesus invites two sets of brothers, Peter and Andrew and James and John, to follow him. His call comes amid their daily occupations. They respond promptly by abandoning their ordinary activities and redirecting their lives to a new way of service to the Lord and the establishment of his kingdom.

Jesus' call comes to each of us in our everyday activities. In baptism, we are called to recognise that "the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Mt 3:2). In our daily lives, we experience Jesus' presence and witness that we are his followers.



## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January (Cycle A)

### Parish Diary

Sunday Masses	10.00 am & 6.30 pm
Weekday Masses	9.00 am
Wednesdays	9.00 am – Eucharistic Service
Friday	Adoration following 9.00 am Mass
Holy Days of Obligation	9.30am & 7.30pm
Confessions	Saturdays 9.30 am - 10.00 am
Legion of Mary	After Sunday morning mass (11.30 am onwards)
Baptisms	By Appointment (Saturdays 12.00 pm - 12.30 pm)

### Liturgical Calendar

Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) (Sunday of the Word of God)
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle – Feast
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Saints Timothy & Titus, Bishops
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor of the Church
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

### Masses & Intentions This Week

Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	10.00 am	Caroline Sherry King
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	9.00 am	
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00 am	
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00 am	Sharon Martin – RIP (donor – Maria Poddington)
	12.00 am	<i>Funeral – Mary Wright</i>
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	10.30 am	<i>Funeral – Kathleen Browne</i>
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00 am	
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	10.00 am	Elizabeth Costello – 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary (donor – The Family)
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners

### Parish Notice Board

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection

Today's second collection will be for Pax Christi

#### Prayer Partners Needed

Some of our young people have started their faith journey to their Confirmation at Pentecost. They need your support and we would ask if you could do this with your prayers. We are looking for members of the parish to become their prayers partners. All that would be required of you is to put your name on the list in the porch. We will then allocate a young person or persons to your name and ask if you would pray for them during this time. Our

Confirmation candidates are hoping to host a coffee morning before their Confirmation, which you would be invited to. Our young people thank you for your consideration.

### Confirmation

The Confirmation Meeting took place at St Mary's recently with 6 out of 9 of our candidates attending. Could the other 3 candidates either contact the office or contact Marie Browne to let us know whether you still wish to remain on the list.

It is imperative that you attend mass regularly and Father Britto will sign your attendance card after mass. Please wait on the pews near to the front of the church and Father will come to you.

### Children's Liturgy

The Children's Liturgy is now up and running during 10am mass every Sunday. Please encourage your children to join this group which is open to children aged 4 and above. It is a very relaxed and fun group to help your child along their path of faith.

### Crib

The Crib will remain under the altar until after the feast of The Presentation of the Lord. Your kind donations go to support the work of Brentwood Catholic Children's society.

### Parish Finance:

#### Weekly Collection

15.1.23

Gift Aid: £ 109    Loose Plate: £ 226.10    Total: £335.10

Crib (bccs) £5

#### Standing Orders

Gift Aid: £662.25    Non-GA: £595    Total: £1,257.25

Hall bookings: £1,400.

### Communication Desk

#### Help Needed

There is a family who are in urgent need of rented accommodation, namely a 2 bedroom house in the Hornchurch area. Could you kindly contact the office for further information if you know of anyone who might be able to help. Many thanks.

#### The Divine Mercy Apostolate

The Divine Mercy Apostolate London is holding a Divine Mercy Retreat at Saint Joseph's Roman Catholic Church 68 Grange Park Road Leyton London E10 5ES on Saturday 21 January 2023 from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm. The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information

#### BCYS Youth Mass

I would like to personally invite the young people from your Parish to join the BCYS for February Youth Mass, on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at Brentwood Cathedral.

We will be joined by some fantastic speakers from the Southend SVP and Caritas Diocese of Brentwood to help inspire us on some charitable giving as we begin to prepare for the season of Lent.

#### Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023

Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from Monday 24 to Saturday 29 July. We can support those with medical needs. For further information, please 'phone Tangey Tours on 01732 886 666 or book online: [Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours \(tangney-tours.com\)](http://tangney-tours.com)

### Caritas Brentwood

If you are affected by the Cost of Living crisis, or if you are part of a group that is offering help and support locally, please look at <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/cost-of-living/>. You can add to this webpage by contacting the Director of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood, Siân Thomas-Cullinan on [caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

### Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023, or a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

### SPUC Annual Youth Conference 2023

Date: 24 to 26 February Venue: Yarnfield Park Training & Conference Centre. Stone, Staffordshire ST15 0NL. See more details, please click on the link below

<https://www.spuc.org.uk/2023youthconference>

<https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Youth/Youth-Conference>

### Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound in our Parish:

Maureen Chaliss, Rosaleen Grimwood, Anna Heneghan, Brenda Humphreys, Pat Lark, George Malaj, Margaret, Eileen McCaffery, Sheila McCurdy, Sheila Murphy, Sheila Nugent, Mary O'Hagan, Rachel, Pradeepan Ragnathan, Mary Scully, Greta Street, Voni Tesi, Mary Thurgood, Rose Yates, Claire Ryan in Emerson Court.

<b>Parish Priest: Fr Britto Belevendran, (01708 507020)</b>
<b>Parish Administrator: Daphne Thomas, Mon, Tues, Thurs &amp; Fri (10am-1pm) (01708 507020)</b>
<b>Pastoral Team Leader: Graham Daniels (07542 588763)</b>
<b>Steward of the Gospel: Mandy Meadway (07801 470516)</b>
<b>Parish Finance: Mrs Stephanie Mallen (07983 962465)</b>
<b>Diocesan Safeguarding Representative: Katie Nash (07825 293308)</b>
<b>Hall &amp; Lounge Bookings: English Martyrs Parish Office (01708 507020)</b>
<b>Church &amp; Hall Caretaker: Mike Dineen (07415 727926)</b>
<b>Legion of Mary: Michael Okafor (07956 586370)</b>

**The English Martyrs Catholic Church (Diocese of Brentwood)**  
**Parish address: 240 Alma Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 6BJ**

**Parish Tel.no: 01708 507020**

**Parish website: <http://www.englishmartyrshx.com/>**

**email: [hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org)**